Prostrate O Lord I lie

William Byrd (*c*.1540-1623)

me Lord, with pi - ty, stop not thine

-hold me Lord, with pi - ty, stop not thine ears a - gainst my

pi - ty, stop not thine ears a - gainst my cry, a - gainst my

Lord, with pi - ty, stop not thine ears a -

with pi - ty, stop not thine ears a - gainst my

ears a - gainst my cry, my sad

cry, a - gainst my cry, my sad and mourn -

cry, a - gainst my cry, my sad and mourn -

-gainst my cry, my sad and mourn - - - -

cry, my sad and mourn - ing dit -

and mourn - ing dit - ty, Breathed from an

- ing dit - ty, and mourn - ing dit - ty, Breathed

-ing dit - ty, mourn - ing dit - ty, Breathed from an in - ward soul,

- ing dit - ty, Breathed from an in - ward soul, an in - ward

- ty, Breathed from an in - - ward soul, *breathed from an*

2

System 1 (measure 30):
- in - ward soul, from heart heart' - ly con - trite,
- _ from an in - ward soul, from heart heart' - ly___ con - trite,
- from heart heart - i - ly con - trite, an offer - ing
- soul, from heart heart - i - ly con - trite,
- *in - ward___ soul,* from heart heart - i - ly con - - trite,

System 2:
- an offer - ing sweet, a sa - cri - fice,
- an offer - ing sweet, a sa - cri - - fice, a
- sweet, a sa - - cri - fice, in thy high hea - ven - ly
- an offer - ing sweet, an offer - ing sweet, a sa - cri - fice,___
- an offer - ing sweet, a sa - cri - fice, in

System 3:
- in thy high hea - ven - ly sight,
- sa - cri - fice, in thy high hea - ven - ly___ sight, in
- sight, *in thy high hea - ven - ly___ sight,* in thy high hea -
- ___ in thy high hea - ven - ly sight, high hea - ven - ly
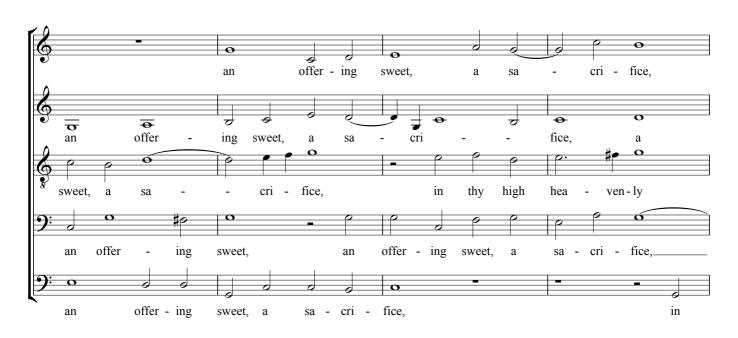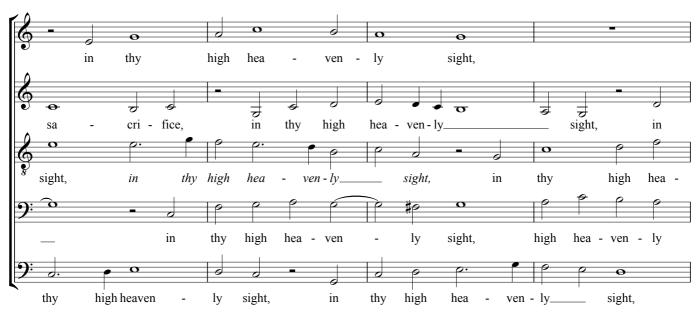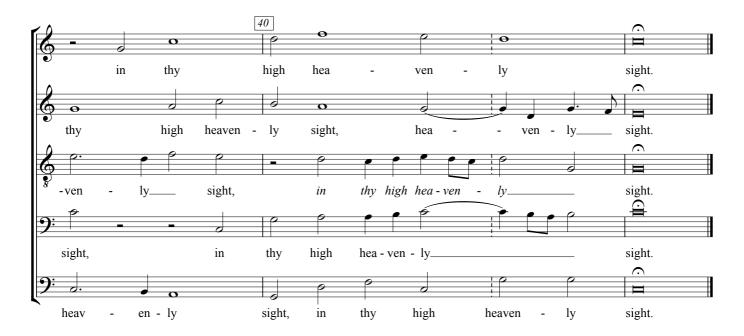- thy high heaven - ly sight, in thy high hea - ven - ly___ sight,

1. Prostrate O Lord, I lie,
   beehold mee Lord, with pittie,
   stop not thine eares against my cry,
   my sad and mourning dittie,
   Breath'd from an inward soule,
   from hart hart'ly contrite,
   an offering sweet, a sacrifice,
   in thy high heavenly sight.

2. Observe not sinnes O Lord,
   for who may then abide it,
   but let thy mercie cancell them,
   thou hast not man deni'd it,
   man melting with remorse and thoughts,
   thought past repenting,
   O lighten Lord, O heare our songs,
   our sinnes full sore lamenting.

3. The wonders of thy works
   above all reason reacheth,
   and yet thy mercie above all
   this, us thy spirit teacheth,
   then let no sinner fall,
   in depth of foul despair,
   since never soul so foul there was,
   but mercie made it faire.

Source: William Byrd, *Psalmes, Sonets, & songs of sadnes and pietie* (London, 1588), no.27.

I.23.2-4: underlay unclear; *mourn ♩. ing ♪♩* also possible

III.27.3-28.2, IV.29, V.29.1-3: *hartely* in source, so possibly intended as two syllables, although the apostrophes in I and II (*hart'ly* in source) suggest otherwise. The OED cites *heartly* as an almost exclusively Scots usage as against the English *heartily*.